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Please cancel claims 39-52, without prejudice to subsequence renewal or public dedication.
Please amend the claims by substituting the following claims for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s):

Per the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the following claims are to be substituted for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s). A marked up version showing the changes to the claims, is attached herewith as Appendix B. For the Examiner's convenience, a complete claim set of the currently pending claims is also submitted herewith as Appendix C.

1A9
2 (AMENDED). A method for detecting a nucleic acid, the method comprising:
contacting a first nucleic acid to a second nucleic acid, which second nucleic acid comprises a neutral or positively charged fluorescent label; and, detecting fluorescence polarization of the resulting mixture of first and second nucleic acids, wherein the fluorescence polarization is increased by less than about 50% by the addition of polylysine to the first and second nucleic acid.

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending with entry of this amendment, claims 39-52 being cancelled. Claim 2 is amended herein. This amendment introduces no new matter, merely re-writing claim 2 in independent form to place the claim in condition for allowance. The amendments to the specification merely correct formal matters as helpfully suggested by the Examiner.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION

Pursuant to a restriction requirement made final, Applicants cancel claims 39-52 with entry of this amendment. Please note, however, that Applicants reserve the right to file subsequent applications claiming the canceled subject matter and the claim cancellations should not be construed as abandonment, public dedication, or agreement with the Examiner's position in the Office Action.